

YOUR NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

HOW LONG DO YOU HOLD THE DETERMINATION TO KEEP YOUR TEMPER OR QUIT GOSSIPING OR STOP SWEARING? WISE ONES SAY WE PROFIT BY MAKING RESOLUTIONS SINCERELY EVEN IF WE KEEP THEM BUT A DAY

ANY weakling can make resolutions. It needs a strong man to keep them. That is perhaps why New Year resolutions are so often futile. The strong do not wait for high days and holy days to amend their conduct or carry out their resolves. They obey Goethe's dictum: "Seize this very minute, Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."

And so it happens that the large army of people who wait for the New Year before effecting reformation in their lives are seldom successful in carrying out their intentions. They are not possessed of the spirit of energy and resolution necessary to achievement. It may be that it is better to make good resolutions, though they are not carried out, than not make them at all. This is open to question. Unless one is absolutely determined to do so, one has decreed, it is perhaps on the one hand, not to make promises to oneself, and on the other, to make promises to oneself.

Very little tends to overbalance the resolutions of the average person. In fact, many people welcome any excuse to exonerate them from the carrying out of their resolves. One individual determines, let us say, never to lose his temper. He comes down on New Year's morning with a set smile on his face. Alas! it is short-lived. The whole world seems in conspiracy to drag him back to his former frame of mind. The coffee is cold, the letters which look so alluring prove to be chiefly bills and begging epistles, he falls over the doorstep as he leaves the house. All these minor annoyances, which, if rightly met, would have helped him to conquer his weakness, serve but to throw him back into his original state, and before evening he is as bad as ever he has been.

THE FRENCH FOREIGN LEGION

DE MAUPASSANT, describing an officer, said that just to look at him made one feel martial. He did not say warlike or bellicose; the idea he wished to convey was much more subtle. In the presence of this officer one assumed the military attitude of mind and body.

This is a phenomenon that escapes the attention of most people—women, however, observe it. Practically every nonmilitary man at the sight of a well set up, fully accoutred soldier instinctively assumes something of a military bearing. And when the drums roll and a marching column of soldiers flashes into view the civilian involuntarily throws back his shoulders and steps out with a tense, measured tread.

And as with civilians, so with soldiers. The ordinary regiment becomes more military in the presence of the crack regiment. The crack regiment itself gains something more when in proximity to a detachment of troops of heroic, almost legendary, fame, such as the Foreign Legion.

The Legionaries handle campaigns of their own, and probably no body of troops has ever done such constant and arduous campaigning. But France over and over again has used them also as leaven among other troops. They stiffen the mass, and men emulate their actions.

The Legion was sent out to the Crimea and got no special credit for covering itself with glory, as that had been expected of it, but did reflect great credit on the judgment of those who had sent it out to help to inspire a whole army.

The queen of Spain 80 years ago was in a hard fix with a civil war on her hands. The Carlists, whom she was fighting, were just as good soldiers as her own, if not a shade better. Then the Queen's generals had an inspiration of genius. If they could only get the French Foreign Legion into their army they felt the shade of advantage would move over to their side. So the queen bought the Foreign Legion from the then king of France, and for four years the Legion belonged to Spain.

In the present war, part of the French Legion has been sent to the trenches of France and Flanders and Alsace and to the Dardanelles. Part of it remains in Africa, its normal habitat, doing some mighty vigorous campaigning in the Moroccan part of France's wonderful new African empire.

The Americans and other foreigners who are enrolled as volunteers in the French army are put in contact with the Legionaries, and this, while giving them scope for their fighting qualities and assuring them an opportunity for genuine campaigning, is the highest measure of protection for them. It guarantees them against foolish rashness, as well as against being led into traps or losing their head in critical moments.

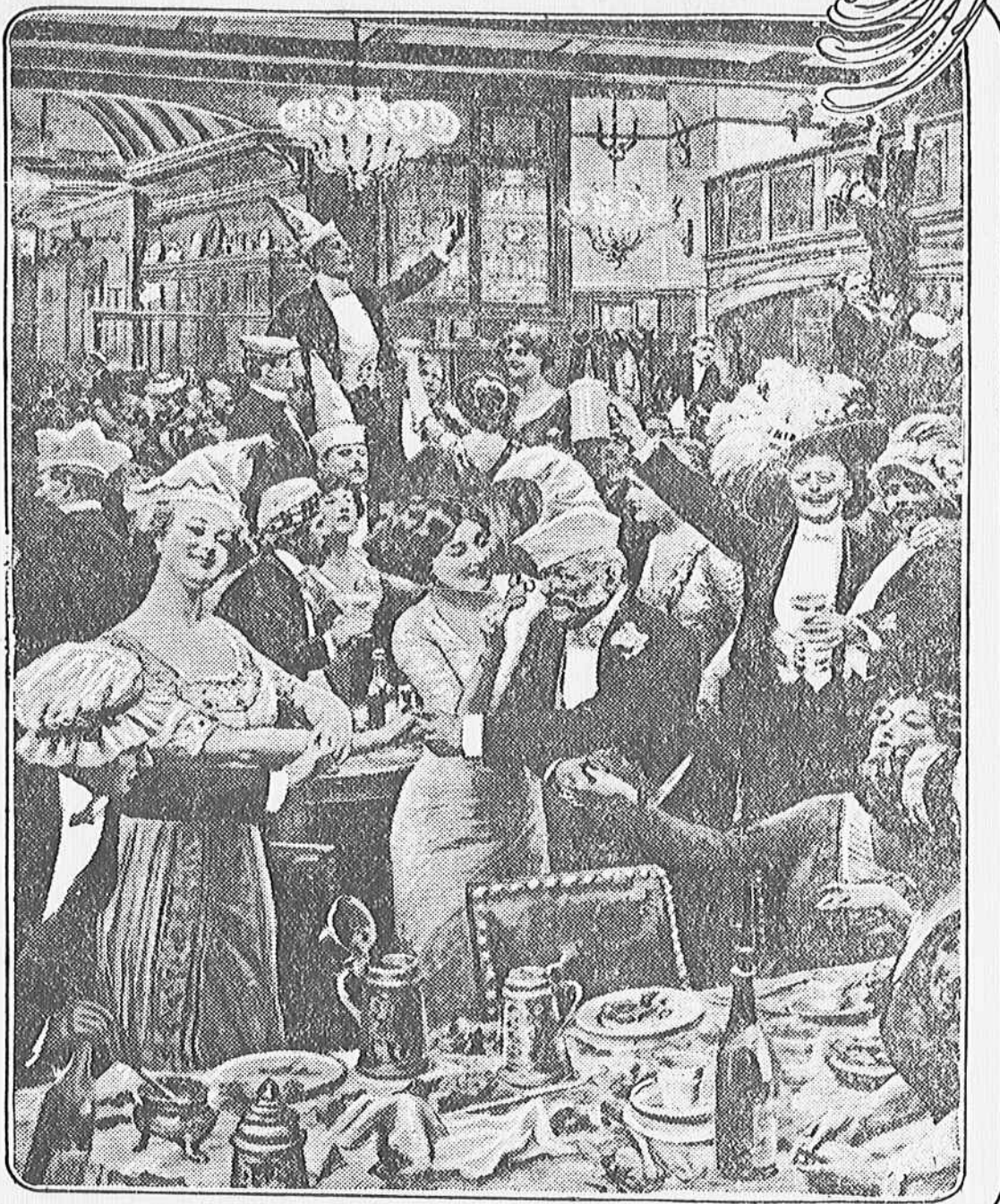
Fighting is routine work with the Legionary, just as sailing a yacht is to the expert mariner. The winds may be different on each trip and the craft is never handled twice in the same way, but the expert knowledge of the technique of his trade makes the Legionary and the skipper each acquit himself of his task in finished fashion.

Officially the Foreign Legion is composed of eight thousand men. In reality it is understood it has nearly double that number, and the Legion becomes readily a whole army corps, with the addition of some of France's colonial troops.

France for hundreds of years had regiments of German, English, Irish, Scotch, Swiss, Italians and other foreigners enrolled in her armies, but the present Foreign Legion may be considered as dating from 1831. One brief rule in its constitution says that the enlisting colonel may accept a man even though he does not present a birth certificate or identification papers. Wherefore the names of the English and American Legionaries have been Smith, Brown and Jones; of Germans Muller, Schwartz and Weiss; of the Italians, Rossi and Grossi; of the French, Petolt, Legrand and Leclerc, and so on.

The recruiting officer reads the candidate a warning lecture. "Don't you know what the Legion is, monsieur? Surely there is something better you can do. Severe campaigning in Africa or in China for a sou a day, or a few sous as you begin to advance, is no bed of roses. You had better think it over a day or two. No? You already are aware? Very well, mon cher enfant," and his tone changes as he now speaks as a colonel to his soldier: "There is a glorious career down there for the right kind. If you are a good and faithful soldier you may go far. Good luck!"

The recruiting colonel can generally tell at a glance what army the candidate has served in and if he has been a sergeant or an officer. In the latter case he is discreetly questioned on the point, and it is suggested, for his own benefit, that he confidentially inform his colonel when he arrives at the training quarters in Africa. One who has been an officer in a European army is usually taken into the corporals' class and may be advanced within a couple of years to be a sergeant of the Legion.



A PUBLIC NEW YEAR'S EVE REVEL

Or, take another very general New Year's resolution, that of getting up at a certain time in the morning. When the day dawns, any reason whatever is grasped at to evade this. The weather is too cold, the alarm was not loud enough, he is sure his watch is fast, he doesn't really feel well enough to risk getting up earlier than usual, and, after all, he asks himself, is there any real reason why he should? A thousand-and-one excuses the average individual will make to himself rather than perform what he has designed to do. The world is full of wobblers of this kind, and the more they wobble the weaker they become.

Another reason perhaps why the average resolution-maker so seldom achieve their purpose is that they attempt too much. They make two, three, sometimes six resolutions at once, whereas to carry through one resolution successfully is quite an admirable feat.

As Thomas a Kempis says:

"If every year we could root out one vice we would sooner become perfect men." Impatience is at the root of many defeats. It is customary nowadays to sneer at the virtue for which the name of Job is synonymous, but those who say that patience is the virtue of an ass or a beggar's virtue are not so wise as the Spanish proverb-maker, who said:

"Patience! and shuffle the cards." Most people shuffle the cards eagerly enough, but the patience is lacking. Seeking to grasp the stars at a bound they fall back to the earth.

And so, if people at the commencement of a New Year adjusted their desires in accordance with their abilities, and instead of sighing for the unattainable made the very most of the opportunities vouchsafed to them, one would hear less of broken resolutions and wasted lives.

"Do the duty which lies nearest to thee which thou knowest to be a duty," said Carlyle. "Thy second duty will already have become clearer."

The Turning of New Leaves.

Good resolutions have almost gone out of fashion. On the last night of the year we no longer sit down to review our past lives and resolve to be "better and wiser" than we have been in the past. "It is of no use making resolutions, I never can keep them," is the plea that is usually proffered. This is a mistake, however. It is commendable to resolve (an alarm clock helping one) to get up half an hour earlier than usual in the morning, even though it results—as, alas! it too often does—in one getting up half an hour later.

If people could live more in the present it would help them enormously in the keeping of good resolutions. So many people persist in being just a little ahead all the time.

"Tomorrow," they say, "we will reform," but the tomorrow of their imaginings never dawns. Ancient and modern philosophers have agreed as to the dangers of procrastination. Such widely diverse people as Horace, the Latin poet who flourished in 65 B. C., and pushful persons who flourish (exceedingly) at the present day, join issue in this particular.

"Who begins, possesses half the deed," says Horace.

"Dare to be wise; make a commencement." "Do it now," is the curt command of the modern apostle of "Hustle." Again, Horace says, "If you are ignorant how to live aright, give place to those who have learned the lesson."

"Get on or get out," says a manikin, following in more concentrated, if less courteous language the same line of thought on a somewhat lower plane. The one was concerned with the things of the soul and the spirit; the other with worldly advancement. There are some who contend that the two cannot go together, but if (as has been contended by many men of wisdom) what a man is of more importance than what he has, it is well to make spiritual advancement as the years go by. If we have not made progress, we have gone back. The soul never stands still. Time has no terror for those who have learned wisdom.

Pass thou, wild heart,
Wild heart of youth that still
Hast half a mind to stay,
I grow too old a comrade;
Let us part,
Pass thou away.

Some people drag the follies and immaturities of youth into old age. There is wisdom in adjusting oneself to time, to profit by past experiences, and to acquire that sense of proportion which refuses to magnify trifles into tragedies, and to worry over the inevitable.

HIGHWAY BOND ACTS VALID

Greenville and Richland Flotations Are Upheld By the Supreme Court En Banc.

Columbia.—The supreme court en banc sustained the constitutionality of the acts providing for the issuance of \$1,250,000 in bonds by the Richland county board of highway commissioners for the permanent improvement of the county's roads and for the issuance of \$950,000 in bonds by Greenville county for similar purposes, the acts having been passed at the last session of the legislature.

There is pending a second test suit as to the Richland flotation. This action is now before the master in equity on reference from the court of common pleas. The suit decided was known as the "friendly" suit, the plaintiff being John W. Lillard, chairman of the board of directors of the Columbia chamber of commerce. The plaintiff in the action pending, J. R. Hopkins, M. D., is chairman of a citizens' committee which opposes the act as it stands.

Mendel L. Smith

Co. Chairmen Laymen's Convention.

Columbia.—The executive committee of the Columbia convention of the Laymen's Missionary movement will organize the whole state, with the purpose of securing the largest possible attendance of the laymen of all the churches of the various denominations at the convention, which will be held in Columbia February 6-9.

The registration committee of the Columbia convention with W. B. West as chairman, has selected a prominent layman in every county in the state, who will serve as chairman of the co-operating committee in placing the aims and purposes of the Columbia convention before every church in the several counties.

The chairmen of the various counties are as follows:

Abbeville county, B. M. Haddon, Abbeville; Aiken, Finley Henderson, Aiken; Anderson, Will Ashborne, Anderson; Bamberg, Jesse Carter, Bamberg; Barnwell, F. M. Duckingham, Barnwell; Beaufort, W. A. Danner, Beaufort; Berkeley, W. M. Manning, Pinopolis; Calhoun, S. J. Summers, Charleston; Cherokee, A. N. Wood, Cherokee; Chester, R. B. Caldwell, Chester; Chesterfield, H. P. Duval, Cheraw; Clarendon, C. R. Spott, Manning; Colleton, James E. Pearlfloy, Walterboro; Darlington, J. J. Lawton, Hartsville; Dillon, Wade Stackhouse, Dillon; Dorchester, F. E. Hinnant, St. George; Edgefield, E. A. Padgett, Edgefield; Fairfield, J. E. McDonald, Winnsboro; Florence, Julian C. Rogers, Florence; Georgetown, Walter I. Hazard, Georgetown; Williamsburg, H. LeRoy Lee, Kingstree; York, W. B. Moore, York; Greenville, L. P. Hollis, Greenville; Greenwood, F. V. P. Schroeder, Greenwood; Hampton, P. H. Gooding, Hampton; Horry, J. C. Spivey, Conway; Kershaw, C. C. Yates, Camden; Lancaster, Ira B. Jones, Lancaster; Laurens, R. A. Cooper, Laurens; Lee, D. A. Quantalbaum, Bishopville; Lexington, C. M. Eford, Lexington; Marion, P. W. Johnson, Marion; Marlboro, Tom Hamer, Bishopville; Newberry, J. M. Kinard, Newberry; Oconee, W. C. Hughes, Vahalla; Orangeburg, T. M. Rayson, Orangeburg; Pickens, B. Lewis, Pickens; Richland, central committee, Columbia; Saluda, B. W. Crouch, Saluda; Spartanburg, H. N. Snyder, Spartanburg; Sumter, C. G. Rowland, Sumter; Union, B. F. Allston, Jr., Union.

Big Fire at Lake City.

Lake City.—Fire which broke out in the early morning in the Sault-Baker Company's store destroyed the entire stock of goods and buildings occupied by the store and the Halcyon hotel have been destroyed. The loss on these two properties alone will be more than \$50,000, with insurance of \$25,000.

Little Child Drowned.

Spartanburg.—The body of little Fannie Blackwell, the 12 year-old daughter of Andy Blackwell, of McMillan's store in the upper part of the county, who was drowned several days ago in Obed creek, where it flows into north Catalet river, has not been recovered. It is believed to have been washed into the river.

SOUTH CAROLINA NEWS ITEMS.

Gov. Richard I. Manning, W. W. Long, D. L. Lewis, Bright Williamson and others were in Darlington county recently the guests of the Dovesville high school and the Antioch Industrial school.

John J. Carmack, foreman of the composing room of The State at Columbia, has returned to his desk after an absence of one week caused by illness. This was the first time lost by Mr. Carmack because of illness in 43 years.

John B. Cooper and Charles Bendheim, conciliators of the United States department of labor, who have been at work in the Piedmont section of the state in connection with the textile strikes for the past several weeks have returned to Washington.

As a result of examination held at Spartanburg for appointment to the naval academy from that district, William A. Rice of Union is first, Geo. C. Carrington, Spartanburg 2d, John Perry of Greenville third. The result of the examination has been forwarded to Congressman Nichols who will make the appointment.

HYDE AS MAYOR STANDS FOR LAW

CHARLESTON'S NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE SOUNDS NOTE OF WARNING TO LAWBREAKERS.

TAKES THE OATH OF OFFICE

Must Be No Compromise With Lawlessness in Declaration in Inaugural Address.

Charleston.—That there must be no compromise with lawlessness in Charleston during his administration was stressed by Mayor Tristram T. Hyde in his inaugural address to the packed galleries and crowded city council chamber when he and 24 aldermen elected to serve for the ensuing four years took the oath of office administered by Recorder Theodore D. Jervey.

"Enforcement of law and the co-operation of our citizens in strong, healthy sentiment in favor of such enforcement, is at the foundation of all moral progress. The strength or weakness of any city is revealed when the veil is withdrawn from the hidden life," declared the new mayor of Charleston.

"If, however, we are law-abiding, and can demonstrate that condition as a real fact, then and only then can we have a chance for a patient hearing by our lawmakers as to any desired change," he continued. "We must face all of the laws as we find them, and enforce them until others can be secured which may better suit our local conditions."

"Let me beg you therefore to remember that we can never prosper commercially, as far as our relations to our own state are concerned, and we can never have the influence we should have in South Carolina, until we agree to live under the laws made by our legislature for the whole state. We must let it be known that we are in a part of our state and that we are ready to join hands with all sections for the political, educational, commercial and moral uplift of all of our people."

On the rostrum were Mayor Grace who opened the meeting of city council, Maj. Hyde and Recorder Jervey. As soon as Maj. Hyde took the oath and became formally the chief executive of the city of Charleston, Mr. Grace handed him the keys to the mayor's office and left the chamber. Applause broke out as the mayor and the ex-mayor exchanged greetings. Following the administration of the oath to Mayor Hyde, the 24 aldermen-elect came forward, four at a time, and took the oath from the mayor, completing the essentials of the induction ceremonies.

There was a capacity attendance upon the ceremonies, which instituted a new administration. Perfect order prevailed, and the program of installation proceeded smoothly and impressively. The mayor, the mayor-elect and aldermen-elect assembled in the city court room shortly before the hour of noon, and at the stroke of 12 marched into council chamber. Recorder Jervey, with Mayor Grace on his left and Mayor-elect Hyde on his right, headed the line. Promptly the officials took their seats and Mayor Grace rapped for order. He instructed Clerk of Council Barbot to read the election returns.

Negro School Building Burns.

Florence.—The negro graded school building was burned here. Fire started in the roof from a defective flue, it is supposed, as the fire was first discovered in the roof of the building. It spread rapidly and before the department could be summoned and get water on the building it was doomed. There were nearly 1,500 children in the building when it caught fire and they were marched out in the fire drill in one minute and one-half. This was a large and commodious and one of the best lighted and most conveniently arranged school buildings in the state. It contained 16 large class rooms on two floors. It was insured for \$10,000 and there was \$1,000 on the furniture.

Protest Against McCormick.

Greenwood.—Citizens living in the Greenwood county section of the proposed new county of McCormick have through their attorneys filed protest against declaring the new county election. The Greenwood commissioners will render decision in the matter soon. The main grounds of the protest are that Gov. Manning had no power to call the election, that the new county violates the ill shaped county act, that no election shall be held oftener than four years and that an election was held last year.

Jump Proves Fatal.

Florence.—William P. Holland, for many years an engineer on the Atlantic Coast Line, died here as the result of injuries received in jumping from the second story window of the infirmary where he had been sent for treatment on account of an ailment from which he had suffered for years and which was the cause of his death, hastened by his accident. Mr. Holland came to Florence from Anderson county in early life and was employed by the Atlantic Coast Line as long as he was physically able to work.